



IRISH LANDSCAPE INSTITUTE
INSTITIÚID TÍRDHREACHA NA hÉIREANN

ILI EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Review of Lectures and Seminars 2013/2014

Curated by Daithi O'Troithigh MILI and Lucy Carey MILI
Supported by the Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht

October 2013

Public Lecture: Olympic Park - Transforming East London

Neil Mattinson, LDA Design (UK)

The lecture series launched with a presentation from LDA Design on the design of the London Olympic Parklands. Landscape Architect **Neil Mattinson** gave an account of the development of the park before and after the Olympics and the transformation of one of the most contaminated brownfield sites in London into a successful new park. Forming the centrepiece of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Olympic Park is the largest new urban park in London since the Victorian era, and a catalyst for regeneration in East London. The parklands were designed to host thousands of visitors each day during the Games. The previously canalised River Lee was transformed into a three dimensional mosaic of wetland, swales, wet and dry woodland and meadow, together forming an absorbent flood-control measure. After the Games, a permanent legacy of 102 hectares of metropolitan open land was created, with temporary structures and concourse areas removed to make way for permanent parkland, designed to fit with the wider area masterplan. Over four thousand semi-mature trees will be planted setting the scene for the creation of 45 hectares of new habitat.





November 2013

Public Lecture : The Temporary City - Vacancy and Community Place-making
David Andrews MILI, Landscape Architect & **Samuel Bishop**, Upstart Collective

The recent economic downturn has highlighted the inflexibility of traditional development methods and sparked a trend in community initiatives. As a result, attitudes to public realm development are now being challenged by more agile, responsive, and iterative methods of city making. Two speakers presented at the November event: *Temporary City*: **David Andrews** outlined strategies for hands-on community engagement, “lighter, quicker, cheaper” techniques, and a curatorial approach to site management in order to create vibrant and engaging public spaces. **Samuel Bishop** gave an account of the creation of the pop-up Granby Park in a vacant space on Dominick St in Dublin’s north inner city. The park consisted of up-cycled, recycled, donated and found material. It is intended to create a toolkit based on the Granby model in order to inspire parks across the country.

December 2013

Seminar : Investing in public Parks – Why should we do it

In December, ILI ran an intensive, multi-disciplinary seminar on public parks covering new research in several key aspects of public parks design and management. The seminar took in ecology and biodiversity, planning and green infrastructure, with reference to current research and practice, and specific case studies. The programme included the following presentations: *Urban Biodiversity and Public Parks* by **Maryann Harris**, Past President ILI, Dublin City Council, *The Park Atlantic Project : Parks and Green Spaces Sustainable Management Action Plan* by **Declan O’Leary** MILI & **Richard Butler** MILI, *Malahide Castle Management Plan: a case study* by **Kevin Halpenny** MILI, Fingal Co. Council, and *The Humane Metropolis: from City Parks to Green Infrastructure* by **Aidan ffrench**, Past President ILI, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. These presentations are available for download on the ILI website.

December 2013

Viewing Landscape in All Its Complexity

Brendan McGrath MIPI, Planning Consultant and author of *Landscape and Society in Contemporary Ireland*

Dublin & Cork

“ Ireland stands out as a country which has landscapes that are admired the world over and a society that is ill at ease with the places it inhabits. We tend to assume that when we look at a hill or a valley or a row of houses, our neighbours see much the same as we do, but this is often not the case...”

Brendan McGrath discussed a variety of perspectives on landscape and the role of planning in balancing the multiple concerns around conservation, development and sustainable settlement. Landscape is viewed as commodity, as symbol and as expression of beauty and three especially contentious types of development were described in detail; wind farms, rural housing and the designation of countryside for public recreation and enjoyment. This lecture was first hosted by the ILI Munster branch in association with the Irish Planning Institute, and repeated in Dublin in December, bringing the 2013 lecture season to a close.



January 2014

Landscape and Revolution in Ireland, France and America 1770-1810

Dr. Finola O’Kane Crimmins MRIA

The 2014 programme opened with a fascinating lecture by Dr O’Kane, looking at the administration of lands and estates in America in the pre and post emancipation periods. The original correlation of landscape and revolution took place on American soil in the 1770s, and this was projected back to Europe in order to engender revolution in the old world. The use of landscape and vegetation to conceal rather than express wealth and power was described, and the social and psychological legacies of land ownership were explored. This research is in its infancy, and we hope to hear from Finola again soon

February 2014

The Liffey Boardwalk – City meets River

McGarry Ni Eanaigh Architects

Architects McGarry NiEanaigh gave a presentation reviewing the design and installation of the Liffey Boardwalk , now fourteen years old. Circa 900 meters of south facing Public Promenade was installed over water in Dublin in 2000/2001. The Boardwalk project won an AAI Award for Excellence in 2002 and an RIAI Irish Architecture Award in 2001.



March 27th 2014

Working with Urban Trees

Joe McConville

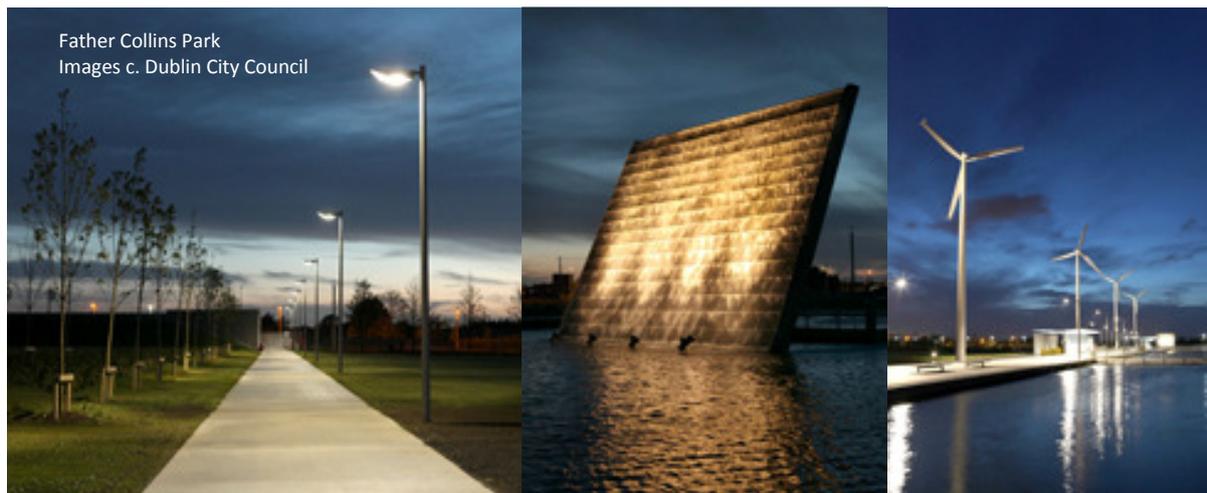
Arbournist **Joe McConville** spoke about the day to day management of trees in the city, and the issue of retention or removal of trees to accommodate development. Joe examined the feasibility of expectations about tree retention in close proximity to proposed buildings, and looked at how a design team might address these expectations.

April 2014

Public Lecture: Father Collins Park – The First Five Years

Maryann Harris Past President ILI, Dublin City Council

Maryann Harris gave an account of the design and development of Ireland's first wholly sustainable park. Opened in May 2009 in a newly developed area of the city in Donaghmede, North Co. Dublin, Father Collins park uses wind turbines to provide a renewable energy source, and features facilities such as a skate park, fitness trail, playgrounds, sports fields and an ornamental lake. Fr. Collins Park has won a number of awards including 2009 Irish Concrete Society Awards, and 2010 RIAI Irish Architecture Award for Best Public Space.



April 2014

Public Lecture: Green Roofs, New Developments

Laurance Nesbitt MRIAI, Nesbitt Associates & Peter O'Brien, O'Brien Landscape

In response to feedback from our previous Green Roofs events, ILI scheduled an evening of two presentations in May 2014. Laurance Nesbitts gave an account of his study of green roof retrofitting in Dublin Docklands, and Peter O'Brien delivered practical advice on design, planting, construction and maintenance strategies.